

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 515

By McNally

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Elizabeth M. "Betty" Tinker of Maryville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely passing of Elizabeth M. "Betty" Tinker; and

WHEREAS, well known and beloved by many Tennesseans as "Ms. Betty," Betty Tinker was an exemplary public servant, consummate professional, and role model for customer service, who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, for decades, Betty Tinker was the person with whom members of the General Assembly, their staffs, and those in the Executive Branch interacted every home football Saturday when they attended a Tennessee Volunteers game in Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, Betty Tinker was always the friendly face in the "Legislative Lounge" on those Saturdays who worked tirelessly to accommodate the sudden and unexpected needs of the individual legislators and their constituents; and

WHEREAS, during those many years of dedicated service, Betty Tinker established strong and lasting relationships with so many state officials; and

WHEREAS, having recently retired, Betty Tinker justifiably earned the well-deserved respect and admiration of the members of the General Assembly and her fellow citizens for her distinguished work as an assistant in the Office of the President of the University of Tennessee for forty-five years; and

WHEREAS, Betty Tinker was a passionate and devoted fan of the Tennessee Volunteers, and her favorite color was orange. Vol fans across the nation knew they could always count on "Ms. Betty"; and

WHEREAS, born on April 22, 1934, Betty Tinker was the daughter of Edwin "Mac" McCain and Agnes Hunter McCain and a lifelong resident of the Maryville/Alcoa area; and

WHEREAS, Betty Tinker was a founding and active member of Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church, which she served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, the matriarch of an extended family, Ms. Tinker was deeply devoted to her family, as they were to her, and she was known to cook Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners for twenty or more people as a normal holiday. Her banana pudding, chicken salad, and potato salad were legendary; and

WHEREAS, a woman who was always looking for the next adventure, Betty Tinker loved to travel and enjoyed being a grandmother, proudly supporting her grandsons in all their activities; and

WHEREAS, she was preceded in death by her devoted husband of fifty-six years, Glenn Tinker; her brother and sister-in-law, Bill and Barby McCain; and her niece, Donna Tinker; and

WHEREAS, a beloved mother and grandmother, Betty Tinker enjoyed the love and support of her daughter, Sandy Boatwright; her son Rick Tinker (Betsy); her grandsons, Drew Tinker (Lauren) and Skyler Boatwright; three brothers, E.H. "Hunter" McCain (Judy), Tom McCain (Suzy), and Jim McCain (Tina); her sister, Florence Shirley; and her brother-in-law, Garland Tinker (Dorothy); and

WHEREAS, she will be sadly mourned and fondly remembered by twelve nieces and nephews, numerous great-nieces and great-nephews, a bevy of great-great-nieces and nephews, and a host of cousins, as well as her many friends and former colleagues at the University of Tennessee and every member of Tennessee Volunteer Nation; and

WHEREAS, Betty Tinker leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Elizabeth M. "Betty" Tinker, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Elizabeth M. "Betty" Tinker.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.